

20030522.qrp v02_n928.qrl.20030522

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 19:03:05 EDT
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 2928

QRP-L Digest 2928

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [151094] Re: SMD soldering nirvana????
by "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
- 2) [151095] Re: 4:1 Balun winding info
by Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 3) [151096] Re: Homeland Security Threat Raised to Orange
by Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 4) [151097] 50-ohm coax - "plenum"?
by "Glen Leinweber" <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca>
- 5) [151098] OT: Ham Central NY Closing
by "Adam Vazquez Kb2Jpd" <adamvaz@palm.net>
- 6) [151099] FT: 140W 80-10M Amp *CORRECTION*
by "Alan Fryer" <N3BJ@hotmail.com>
- 7) [151100] Re: 50-ohm coax - "plenum"?
by Peter Abraham - KB7INO <kb7ino_egroups@yahoo.com>
- 8) [151101] Screwdriver Antenna
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 9) [151102] Re: 4:1 Balun winding info
by "w8diz" <w8diz@fpqrp.com>
- 10) [151103] Re: 4:1 Balun winding info
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
- 11) [151104] OT: Follow-Up to What's A Good Red Hat Linux Book?
by "Kevin F. Glynn" <kfglynn@mindspring.com>
- 12) [151105] Re: Antenna category?
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 13) [151106] Trade tape drive for radio
by <n2go@arrl.net>
- 14) [151107] NEQRP CW Net, Thursday, 22 May 03, 08:30 PM EDT, 3.565 MHz
by Chuck Ludinsky <cjl@mitre.org>
- 15) [151108] Re: OT: XY Plotting program
by Tim Groat <tcgroat@earthlink.net>
- 16) [151109] Re: OT: XY Plotting program
by "Ed Rowan, AC5DC" <ac5dc@centurytel.net>
- 17) [151110] Kayak Adventure Radio
by Dave Fuller <rfdma@spinn.net>
- 18) [151111] Re: Screwdriver Antenna
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 19) [151112] Re: Antenna category?

- by <stanw@toxso.com>
- 20) [151113] Re: Antenna category?
by "Noyce, Bill" <william.noyce@hp.com>
 - 21) [151114] MC1349 AMP
by "w8diz" <w8diz@fpqrp.com>
 - 22) [151115] Re: Antenna category?
by Garie Halstead <khyberpass65@yahoo.com>
 - 23) [151116] Re: MC1349 AMP
by ac7a@earthlink.net
 - 24) [151117] icom 706 accessory
by "Dave" <frstbaptistchurch@wyoming.com>
 - 25) [151118] MC1590G was Re: MC1349 AMP
by "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
 - 26) [151119] Re: Screwdriver Antenna
by William R Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
 - 27) [151120] Re:50-ohm coax - "plenum"
by "Glen Leinweber" <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca>
 - 28) [151121] Hoot Owl Sprint
by Randy Foltz <rfoltz@turbonet.com>
 - 29) [151122] Fox - Summer Fox Hunt -
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
 - 30) [151123] New .wav files of KDSP2 noise reduction on SSB and CW
by Eric Swartz WA6HHQ - Elecraft <eric@elecraft.com>
 - 31) [151124] Re:50-ohm coax - "plenum"
by "Mark Andrews" <KE4IOF@KE4IOF.com>
 - 32) [151125] Digital QRP Homebrewing pages updated
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
 - 33) [151126] For sale; Argo 509
by "Dean-NR2V/4" <nr2v@northnet.org>
 - 34) [151127] Re: MC1590G was Re: MC1349 AMP
by "R. Coakley" <rcoakley@maine.rr.com>
 - 35) [151128] Re: [Elecraft] New .wav files of KDSP2 noise reduction on SSB and CW
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
 - 36) [151129] Re: [CW] Etiquette question...(now longer)
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
 - 37) [151130] NorCal 10th Anniversary Party
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
 - 38) [151131] Miniboats Arrival??
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 18:45:10 -0400
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: <kf4yyd@adelphia.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151094] Re: SMD soldering nirvana????
Message-ID: <00d601c31fea\$b59ed700\$010044c0@chartermi.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Before getting all geeked over this, take a look at the soldering paste. Not only is the stuff astonishingly expensive, but it has no shelf life. This might make sense if I could keep a tube of the stuff around for a year, but the shelf life is so short, DigiKey won't even ship the stuff ground.

And at the end of the day, he had to resort to the old solder wick, anyway.

The same basic technique works with your soldering iron. Just slobber solder all over the pins then suck it up with solder wick. The tough part is aligning the part on the pads, same as with the toaster.

Take a gander at
<http://www.qsl.net/wb8rcr/images/AD9850/pscn0639.jpg>

Did that with a soldering iron way too big. That's the same pitch as the processor in the toaster oven pictures. The SOT packages you can pretty well get with a normal technique, but with the TSSOPs and the like, they are way too close for these tired old eyes, so the solder wick gets followed up with a STRONG magnifier.

72/73 de WB8RCR <http://www.qsl.net/wb8rcr>
didileydadidah QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

----- Original Message -----

From: "Tom" <kf4yyd@adelphia.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2003 4:39 PM
Subject: Re: SMD soldering nirvana????

> Hi Dave,
>
> I guess I'll keep my eyes out for a toaster (reflow) oven so that I can
try
> this out sometime in the future. I have a couple of the surface mount DDS
> chips that have an ungodly pitch that will be used in the future when I
get
> to order the NJQRP kit.
>
> It looks like it could be quite a usefull little trick that could save a
lot
> of headaches.
>

> Tom kf4yyd
>
>

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 18:35:50 -0400
From: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU, lookup@qrz.com
Subject: [151095] Re: 4:1 Balun winding info
Message-ID: <20030521.184850.9070.3.kc8aon@juno.com>

OK, I've got conflicting replies on this one ! Some folks say I need 10 bifilar windings on a mix 2 powdered iron toroid for a 4:1 balun, some say 14 turns, some are saying that powdered iron is no good for 4:1 baluns and to use ferrite instead, some say I need 2 wires, some say 4 wires and some are coming up with mathematical equations that would stump Albert Einstein - I'M MORE CONFUSED NOW THAN I WAS !

My toroid is 2.25 inches outside diameter, 1.38 inches inside diameter and 1 inch thick powdered iron mix 2. I want to build a 4:1 balun with it to use in an off center fed (Windom type) antenna for operation on 10 thru 80 meters. I know how to wind the balun, and all I need to know is how many turns to use for the mix 2 core I just described.

72/73 de: Rick McKee, KC8AON <> Willow Wood, Ohio <> Grid: EM88rl
SW 40+, HW-8, Yaesu FT-7, Homebrew 6V6 tube TX & Hallicrafters SW500 RX
<> RockMite 40 <>
QRP-L #2112, FPqrp #33, AR QRP #269
QRP'ers DEPEND ON SKILL - NOT RAW POWER !

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Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 17:58:21 -0400
From: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: kr1st@amsat.org, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [151096] Re: Homeland Security Threat Raised to Orange
Message-ID: <20030521.184850.9070.1.kc8aon@juno.com>

On Wed, 21 May 2003 09:24:10 -0400 Alex <kr1st@amsat.org> writes:

>My response not because of what Alex has said. However, I seriously
>wonder why this message was considered appropriate for this list by
>the
>moderator.
>
>73,
>--Alex KR1ST

Well, if a terrorist is planning to attack you, wouldn't you want to know
in advance and do some planning ? - it pays for all to be prepared ! If
you don't like the subject matter you can always use your delete
button.....

72/73 de: Rick McKee, KC8A0N <> Willow Wood, Ohio <> Grid: EM88rl
SW 40+, HW-8, Yaesu FT-7, Homebrew 6V6 tube TX & Hallicrafters SW500 RX
<> RockMite 40 <>
QRP-L #2112, FPqrp #33, AR QRP #269
QRP'ers DEPEND ON SKILL - NOT RAW POWER !

>
>AI2Q wrote:
>>
>> Yes Rick, the threat is raised, and the orange flag is out, but
>little is
>> being done.
>

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Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 19:03:33 -0400
From: "Glen Leinweber" <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151097] 50-ohm coax - "plenum"?
Message-ID: <000701c31fed\$33ca1de0\$07ea7182@mcmaster.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Coax gurus,
A whack of 50 ohm thin-net coax fell into my lap.

This is fairly small diameter coax used for ethernet,
but has HF attenuation equal to medium grade
RG-58. Some has a PVC jacket with foam
polyethylene dielectric, and some is "plenum" grade,
with a foam FEP teflon dielectric and fluorocopolymer
jacket. Lotsa inert (I hope) chemicals.
One is Belden 9907, other is 89907

Is coax for plenums meant to stay outa sunlight?
Does any ethernet cable weather well outside?
-Glen VE3DNL

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 23:38:06 +0000 (GMT)
From: "Adam Vazquez Kb2Jpd" <adamvaz@palm.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151098] OT: Ham Central NY Closing
Message-ID: <20030521233806.0726A4505@mo110uhou.palm.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Just came from Ham Central Neptune Ave in Poughkipsee NY. Closing doors June 28.
Discounts on whatever in inventory. I am sorry to see them go.

Adam Vazquez Kb2Jpd

This email was sent from my Palm(TM) i705 wireless handheld

"Be who you are and say what you feel because the people who mind
don't matter and the people who matter don't mind." - Dr. Seuss

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 20:10:38 -0400
From: "Alan Fryer" <N3BJ@hotmail.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151099] FT: 140W 80-10M Amp *CORRECTION*
Message-ID: <Law9-0E44xY0gPLQr7V00016410@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Correction to website: www.communication-concepts.com/hf_amplifiers.htm

----- Original Message -----

From: "Alan Fryer" <N3BJ@hotmail.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2003 9:01 AM

Subject: FT: 140W 80-10M Amp

> For Trade: Communications Concepts EB63 amp with output filters for 80, 40, 20, 15, 10M. This is a robust Motorola design and runs two MRF 454 transistors. Go to www.communications-concepts.com/hf_amplifiers.htm for details.

> The amp is assembled, but not tested. Includes the heatsink and changeover relay on board. The filters are assembled, but not incorporated with the amp.

> Would make a great addition for when those QRO moments strike...

>

> Would like to trade for something on the order of a Norcal 40, Norcal 20 converted to 40M , a couple of small DC rigs or ??. Make me an offer.....

>

> Alan, N3BJ

> Bent Mountain, VA

>

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 17:29:00 -0700 (PDT)

From: Peter Abraham - KB7INO <kb7ino_egroups@yahoo.com>

To: Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca>,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [151100] Re: 50-ohm coax - "plenum"?

Message-ID: <20030522002900.32544.qmail@web20805.mail.yahoo.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Hello,

I can kinda answer one of the questions.

Plenum rating means the co-ac can go into air ducts.
Plenum rating means that it won't put out toxic fumes
if caught on fire.

Most homes, we have a/c or heating ducts.

In many corporate buildings, there are no ducts, just

a false ceiling, where they route cables, and the air is flowed through it.
(i.e. the co-ax is in the "air flow" area so it needs a higher rating)

-Peter, KB7INO

--- Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca>
wrote:
> Coax gurus,
> A whack of 50 ohm thin-net coax fell into my
> lap.
> This is fairly small diameter coax used for
> ethernet,
> but has HF attenuation equal to medium grade
> RG-58. Some has a PVC jacket with foam
> polyethylene dielectric, and some is "plenum" grade,
> with a foam FEP teflon dielectric and
> fluorocopolymer
> jacket. Lotsa inert (I hope) chemicals.
> One is Belden 9907, other is 89907
>
> Is coax for plenums meant to stay outa sunlight?
> Does any ethernet cable weather well outside?
> -Glen VE3DNL
>

Do you Yahoo!?
The New Yahoo! Search - Faster. Easier. Bingo.
<http://search.yahoo.com>

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 18:41:12 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [151101] Screwdriver Antenna
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0305211805090.2289-100000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Today Weaver's Welding had me by and they welded the rig I designed made from 1/4 inch steel was welded under my Dodge Durango and a 2 inch steel U sticks up 2 feet. The antenna needs to be insulated from ground. So I bought a foot of 2 inch white plastic pipe and with my

miter saw cut 2 3/4 inch wide circles of this pipe. Cut them so they can expand over the 2 inch tube that is the antenna. Then I slipped these over some small screws at the end of the bottom of the Antenna and then held the antenna by use of 4 inch stainless steel hose clamps at the very top and bottom of the 2 foot steel U. This cost \$45.00 which was very reasonable! I bought some primer paint, masked the Durango from the spray and painted the rig. Then after Lunch I painted again with the paint that is a perfect match to the Durango's Forest Green.

Then added the 8 foot stainless whip that makes the top of the antenna. I will need to shorten this a little to reach 10 meters with no inductor added.

Next chore will be to find a 3 wire cable to wire the screwdriver control wires to my fingers while driving. And some coax to get the antenna to the transmitter.

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 20:36:53 -0400
From: "w8diz" <w8diz@fpqrp.com>
To: <kc8aon@juno.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151102] Re: 4:1 Balun winding info
Message-ID: <009a01c31ffa\$3e247e90\$b8cf1d41@cinci.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Rick , et al,

To wind ANY transformer, be it 1:1 or 4:1, you first need to establish the INPUT and OUTPUT impedance AND the lowest freq of operation.

Assuming a 1:1 transformer with the lowest freq of 1800 KHz and an In/Out of 50 ohms, the inductance of the windings should be at least [4 times 50 ohms] or 200 Ohms.

200 ohms at 1800 KHz equates to an inductance of about 18 uH.

So....all you have to do is wind TWO windings of 18 uH each

for a 1:1 or 3 windings of 18 uH each for a 4:1 balun.

If you plan on using the Balun on the OUTPUT of a tuner, be aware that the impedance present on the output or antenna side of the balun can vary widely. It is NOT a constant 50 ohms.

The best way to implement a BALUN in an antenna tuner circuit is to place the balun between the transmitter and the antenna tuner (1:1 or 50 ohm in and out). Then use a BALANCED antenna tuner to feed your antenna with 300 or 450 or even 600 line.

I highly recommend the <http://www.adde.com> LC meter for measuring the inductance of any toroid windings.

72 & "oo's" - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - W8DIZ - Loveland, Ohio
Clermont County - EM79uf - near Cincinnati; 39:13:05N 84:18:18W
RIG:multiPIG+ ANT:470 FT Horiz Loop <http://kitsandparts.com>

----- Original Message -----

From: "Rick McKee" <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2003 6:35 PM
Subject: Re: 4:1 Balun winding info

OK, I've got conflicting replies on this one ! Some folks say I need 10 bifilar windings on a mix 2 powdered iron toroid for a 4:1 balun, some say 14 turns, some are saying that powdered iron is no good for 4:1 baluns and to use ferrite instead, some say I need 2 wires, some say 4 wires and some are coming up with mathematical equations that would stump Albert Einstein - I'M MORE CONFUSED NOW THAN I WAS !

My toroid is 2.25 inches outside diameter, 1.38 inches inside diameter and 1 inch thick powdered iron mix 2. I want to build a 4:1 balun with it to use in an off center fed (Windom type) antenna for operation on 10 thru 80 meters. I know how to wind the balun, and all I need to know is how many turns to use for the mix 2 core I just described.

72/73 de: Rick McKee, KC8AON <> Willow Wood, Ohio <> Grid: EM88rl
SW 40+, HW-8, Yaesu FT-7, Homebrew 6V6 tube TX & Hallicrafters SW500 RX
<> RockMite 40 <>
QRP-L #2112, FPqrp #33, AR QRP #269
QRP'ers DEPEND ON SKILL - NOT RAW POWER !

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Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 20:51:38 -0700
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151103] Re: 4:1 Balun winding info
Message-ID: <007f01c32015\$7307f810\$0400000a@wa5bdu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I think you've got everyone (including me) scratching their heads, because iron powder is pretty much out of favor these days for baluns. I'd say fit as many turns on as you can without crowding or stacking them. That based on the fact that the permeability of type 2 is probably a hundredth of a typical ferrite used for a balun. With bifilar windings, the number of turns doesn't affect the ratio, so it's just a matter of getting enough inductance. And if you're going down as low as 80 meters and using the type 2 core, you probably need a bunch.

To quote something a bit more authoritative ... I build the Ultimate Transmatch from the 1976 Handbook way back then, and it featured a balun made with T200-2 cores. (This was before Lewallen set us all straight on baluns.) Anyway, it says use two stacked T200-2 ferrite cores with 15 bifilar turns of #14 teflon coated wire. Of course, that was for a kW.

Hey, I just noticed an error in the article for the first time ... T-200-2 cores aren't ferrite ...

Anyway, my vote is for lots of turns.

Good luck & 72--

Nick, WA5BDU

----- Original Message -----

From: "Rick McKee" <kc8aon@juno.com>

>

> I know how to wind the balun, and all I need to know is

> how many turns to use for the mix 2 core I just described.

>

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 21:26:22 -0400
From: "Kevin F. Glynn" <kfglynn@mindspring.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151104] OT: Follow-Up to What's A Good Red Hat Linux Book?
Message-ID: <007201c32001\$278e01e0\$6401a8c0@kevin>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi gang,

First I'd like to thank everyone for their excellent suggestions and help. The following books were recommended to me. I read the first two books that came with the Red Hat Linux 9 boxed set and just bought Red Hat Linux 9 For Dummies today. I'll progress up the ladder once I finish with the Red Hat books and the Dummies book.

The best reference for Redhat are Redhat's manuals:
<http://www.redhat.com/docs/manuals/linux/>

They're available in PDF, rpm, HTML tarball, and if you click on the link you can read them online. The installation manual should be just what you're looking for.

Don't discount the books that come in the boxed set of Red Hat 9. Red Hat has done a really decent job with them. Also, do not rule out "Linux for Dummies".

The SAMS "Unleashed" book

Man pages are probably the best (man <command>)

Running Linux published by O'Reilly, 4th edition

Redhat Linux 9.0 for Dummies

If you have computer exposure to unix or linux I'd Recomend Running Linux or The Redhat 9.0 Bible (expensive but extensive.) Also there is lots of online help, Try:
www.Redhat.com

<http://www.justlinux.com/>

<http://linux-newbie.sunsite.dk/>

<http://www.linuxquestions.org/index.php>

Also Sams prints a primer call teach yourself Redhat Linux in 24 hours that would be of help to those not familiar with Linux.

Thanks once again for the help, I greatly appreciate it.

72 Kevin N2T0
Brooklyn, NYC
QRP-L #323
kfglynn@mindspring.com

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 19:37:21 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Garie Halstead <khyberpass65@yahoo.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151105] Re: Antenna category?
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0305211930490.2594-1000000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Garie, since Hams have trouble even knowing what their output power is, trying to know what the gain of an attic antenna is almost impossible to measure. For certain I know what I use on 20 meters. It's a FT-817 feeding 5 watts to my old High Gain TH6DXX beam. It's got about 6 DB gain above a dipole also at 60 feet above ground.

Compared to an attic dipole it has a lot more gain. But how much? Who knows!

On Wed, 21 May 2003, Garie Halstead wrote:

> Does anyone know of a QRP operating event where stations are not only
> categorized by their output power but also by their antenna system?
>
> I believe I remember seeing this in contest rules somewhere but can't
> recall the contest name or if it even had a QRP category.
>

> Anyway, the point being, it's kind of tough seeing an attic dipole
> station going up against a 7 element tribander at 80 ft station. The
> same holds true for those who live in condos using stealth antennas.
>
> Personally, I'm not in either situation (attic dipole or stealth ant)
> but would like to see at least one operating event where the scores of
> these type of antenna systems are not lumped in with the big yagis who
> are always at the top of the scoring list. Or perhaps giving the
> simple antenna stations some type of scoring multiplier advantage.
>
> I'm not anti-yagi and hope to have one up here at my QTH someday. I
> also fully realize that playing fields can never be totally leveled.
> It's just that I treasure each contact I have with these ops who go to
> the lengths that they do in order to enjoy their QRP hobby given the
> difficult situations they find themselves in with regard to antenna
> choices. Even though they're a minority, they nonetheless have my
> admiration and I'd like to see them get a break in a QRP operating
> event from a scoring standpoint.
>
> If not now existing, how does the list feel about such an event?
> Obviously, this would not be a portable operating event where we all
> are using simple antennas and throwing wires in trees. HI
>
> 72, Gary -K8KFJ-
> West Virginia
>
>
> -----
> Do you Yahoo!?
> The New Yahoo! Search - Faster. Easier. Bingo.
> <http://search.yahoo.com>
>

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 21:37:33 -0400 (EDT)
From: <n2go@arrl.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151106] Trade tape drive for radio
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0305212133080.11754-100000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have two tape drives:

one is 15/30 GB DLT

other 20/40 GB DLT

above with some tapes. Anyone have any use for these?

Make an offer or trade for radio related stuff.

The above are from two servers in my over crowded shack.

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 21:48:28 -0400

From: Chuck Ludinsky <cjl@mitre.org>

To: neqrp@jonal.net, qrp-1@lehigh.edu

Subject: [151107] NEQRP CW Net, Thursday, 22 May 03, 08:30 PM EDT, 3.565 MHz

Message-ID: <3ECC2C6C.3010508@mitre.org>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The New England QRP Club's 80M CW net, WQ1RP, will meet again on Thursday, 22 May 2003, at 8:30 PM EDT (00:30Z, 23 May 03) on or near 3.565 MHz. All hams are welcome. Net control operator will be Chuck, K1CL, operating from Chelmsford, MA.

With considerable QRN, plus QRM from several stations that seem to come on frequency every week around 9:00, we had a total of nine participants in last week's net:

VE3KQN	Jim	Pickering, ON	479
W1FMR	Jim	Salem, NH	599
WA8BXN	Mike	nr Cleveland OH	349
K1RC	John	Dracut, MA	589
VE3REP	Garry	Ajax, ON	459
W1CFI	Paul	Falmouth, MA	599
AB1AV	Bill	Hollis, NH	599
WB1HBE	John	Chelmsford, MA	599
K1CL	Chuck	Chelmsford, MA	net op

Thanks to all stations for QSL'ing. And congratulations to Bill, again, on his one year anniversary in ham radio; that home brew rig sounded FB.

Hope you all stop by this week and say hi to everyone on the net. And

don't forget the NEQRP luncheon meeting on Saturday, 31 May.

72 DE K1CL,
Chuck

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 20:06:48 -0600
From: Tim Groat <tcgroat@earthlink.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [151108] Re: OT: XY Plotting program
Message-ID: <5.1.1.6.2.20030521195630.00a224e0@mail.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

You can do this in Excel. Using the chart creation widget, make a chart using type "X-Y (scatter)" instead of line, bar, pie, etc. You'll need a row/column of "X" data to go with the same size row(s)/column(s) of "Y" data. The "X" data must be numeric for this plot type. Now, if it just had a Smith Chart option...

72,

--Tim (KR0U)

>"Royce Simmons" <w2rnb@prodigy.net>:
>
>Do you know of a XY Plotting program? I can't get excel to let me define the
>independent variable for the X axis nor
>can I find a way to put labels on the axis.

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 22:42:08 -0500
From: "Ed Rowan, AC5DC" <ac5dc@centurytel.net>
To: Tim Groat <tcgroat@earthlink.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151109] Re: OT: XY Plotting program
Message-ID: <3ECC00C0.31366.F21947@localhost>

[http://www.rfcafe.com/business/software/smith_chart_for_excel/smith_ch
art_for_excel.htm](http://www.rfcafe.com/business/software/smith_chart_for_excel/smith_chart_for_excel.htm)

<http://www.sss-mag.com/smith.html>

Both links have a smith chart executed in Excel using a graphic of the smith chart and plotting a xy chart on top of it. Haven't tried it but it is an interesting concept.

73,

Ed, AC5DC
Greenwood, AR

Date sent: Wed, 21 May 2003 20:06:48 -0600
Send reply to: tcgroat@earthlink.net
From: Tim Groat <tcgroat@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: Re: OT: XY Plotting program
Originally to: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

You can do this in Excel. Using the chart creation widget, make a chart using type "X-Y (scatter)" instead of line, bar, pie, etc. You'll need a row/column of "X" data to go with the same size row(s)/column(s) of "Y" data. The "X" data must be numeric for this plot type. Now, if it just had a Smith Chart option...

72,

--Tim (KROU)

>"Royce Simmons" <w2rbn@prodigy.net>:

>

>Do you know of a XY Plotting program? I can't get excel to let me define the
>independent variable for the X axis nor
>can I find a way to put labels on the axis.

Date: Wed, 21 May 2003 22:40:35 -0700
From: Dave Fuller <rfdma@spinn.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [151110] Kayak Adventure Radio
Message-ID: <5.1.1.5.2.20030521223233.02ff5be8@mail.spinn.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I will be running the Yampa River through Dinosaur National Park for my first time next week. (Monday May 26 through Friday May 30) I will be

traveling via whitewater kayak supported by a raft group. I will have with me an SW 30+ for 30 meters and a just finished Rockmite 20. Look for me around 10.116 and on 14.060. My antennas will be dipoles supported with an SD20. Not sure of my operating schedule but will be on when possible. I expect late afternoon or evenings and possibly an early morning or two. This set up will also be my emergency radio for any river emergencies I encounter. I look forward to hearing some of you from the river!

Dave

WD7Z

wd7z@arrl.net

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 04:59:18 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Henry Freedenberg <henryf@quartz.gly.fsu.edu>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151111] Re: Screwdriver Antenna
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0305220457080.1470-100000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Henry will do AFTER I find out if it works. There is still wires to be run. Maybe next week.

On Wed, 21 May 2003, Henry Freedenberg wrote:

> Hey Karl
>
> Take some pix and put them on a web page somewhere
>
> Henry
>
> On 21 May 2003 at 18:41, Karl F. Larsen wrote:
>
> >
> > Today Weaver's Welding had me by and they welded the rig I
> > designed made from 1/4 inch steel was welded under my Dodge Durango
> > and a 2 inch steel U sticks up 2 feet. The antenna needs to be
> > insulated from ground. So I bought a foot of 2 inch white plastic pipe
> > and with my miter saw cut 2 3/4 inch wide circles of this pipe. Cut
> > them so they can expand over the 2 inch tube that is the antenna. Then
> > I slipped these over some small screws at the end of the bottom of the
> > Antenna and then held the antenna by use of 4 inch stainless steel

> > hose clamps at the very top and bottom of the 2 foot steel U. This
> > cost \$45.00 which was very reasonable! I bought some primer paint,
> > masked the Durango from the spray and painted the rig. Then after
> > Lunch I painted again with the paint that is a perfect match to the
> > Durango's Forest Green.
> >
> > Then added the 8 foot stainless whip that makes the top of the
> > antenna. I will need to shorten this a little to reach 10 meters with
> > no inductor added.
> >
> > Next chore will be to find a 3 wire cable to wire the
> > screwdriver control wires to my fingers while driving. And some coax
> > to get the antenna to the transmitter.

> >

> > --

> >

> > - Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

> >

> >

>

>

>

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 07:44:18 -0500
From: <stanw@toxsor.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151112] Re: Antenna category?
Message-ID: <000901c3205f\$de08b380\$0364010a@toxsor.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

First I do not like contests, HOWEVER, the one the Colo qrp club runs makes more sense than most. Other thing I can find to object to is the multi-contacts with the same station. With keyer memories you could make arrangements to work the same station about every 15 to 20 seconds. Throw out the multi-contact and let station compete with like antenna and power levels.

I have a four element beam and believe me it is not fair to a station with a

simple dipole to compete with a beam. And my beam is small compared to some that people claim to be operating QRP when they use.

My two cents ... de stan ak0b

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 09:27:29 -0400
From: "Noyce, Bill" <william.noyce@hp.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151113] Re: Antenna category?
Message-ID:
<6D6463F31027B14FB3B1FB094F2C74470347AF99@tayexc17.americas.cpqcorp.net>
content-class: urn:content-classes:message
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

> With keyer memories you could make
> arrangements to work the same station about every 15 to 20 seconds.

The Colorado QRP Club single-band sprints only allow another contact with a station if half an hour has elapsed since the previous contact with that station, with diminishing points for each repeat. This seems like a reasonable rule if there are not enough participants otherwise. (Don't know if that's a problem with these contests...)

-- Bill, AB1AV

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 09:47:48 -0400
From: "w8diz" <w8diz@fpqrp.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151114] MC1349 AMP
Message-ID: <002501c32068\$e861d880\$b8cf1d41@cinci.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hey Gang,

Anyone have ANY experience with the MC1349 from Motorola?

The data sheet says it has more gain than the MC1350.

Not in MY test circuit!

72 & "oo's" - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - W8DIZ - Loveland, Ohio
Clermont County - EM79uf - near Cincinnati; 39:13:05N 84:18:18W
RIG:multiPIG+ ANT:470 FT Horiz Loop <http://kitsandparts.com>

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 06:48:17 -0700 (PDT)
From: Garie Halstead <khyberpass65@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151115] Re: Antenna category?
Message-ID: <20030522134817.47140.qmail@web80510.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

--- stanw@toxosor.com wrote:

> Other thing I can find to object to is the
> multi-contacts with the same station.

I would guess that's to keep everyone busy. If you don't keep 'em busy, some will turn off their radios and go watch TV.

> With keyer memories you could
> make
> arrangements to work the same station about every 15 to 20 seconds.

I believe the rules say 30 minutes has to have elapsed before you can re-work a station. I might add that 20m propagation can sometimes undergo a drastic change in 30 minutes so I don't think it'd be a sure thing.

> I have a four element beam and believe me it is not fair to a station
> with a
> simple dipole to compete with a beam.

The exact reason for my initial post. It appears the CQC has done a good job with their Colorado Gold Rush in recognizing fairness with regard to antenna systems. Good job!!

Many thanks for your reply Stan.

72, Gary -K8KFJ-
West Virginia

Do you Yahoo!?
The New Yahoo! Search - Faster. Easier. Bingo.
<http://search.yahoo.com>

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 07:30:33 -0700 (MST)
From: ac7a@earthlink.net
To: w8diz@fpqrp.com,
 Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151116] Re: MC1349 AMP
Message-ID: <6080385.1053613834226.JavaMail.nobody@thecount.psp.pas.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Diz,

If you are using the MC1349P in an MC1350P application, pin 3 uses a different connection. The MC1350P requires pin 3 to be grounded, while the MC1349P requires pin 3 to be open or bypassed with a capacitor.

I played with the MC1349P a long time ago, and found that it more was prone to oscillate in an application where the MC1350P was stable. It is a higher gain version of the MC1350P.

Regards, Thomas - AC7A

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 09:03:58 -0600
From: "Dave" <frstbaptistchurch@wyoming.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [151117] icom 706 accessory
Message-ID: <web-33659389@wyoming.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="ISO-8859-1"; format="flowed"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

looking for the "tune button" add on, to put out a few watts for

antenna tuning. Who markets it?

thanks
Dave K8BBM

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 15:40:21 +0000
From: "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: w8diz@fpqrp.com
Subject: [151118] MC1590G was Re: MC1349 AMP
Message-ID: <Law9-F117ewwzv0pjb00042cac@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

w8diz (w8diz@fpqrp.com) wrote:

>Anyone have ANY experience with the MC1349 from Motorola?

While we are on the subject, has anyone a copy of the MC1590G datasheet? I liberated a quantity of those critters recently but can't seem to learn any more about them than what I can infer from the old ARRL handbooks.

Thanks.

Brad KG6IOE

Protect your PC - get McAfee.com VirusScan Online
<http://clinic.mcafee.com/clinic/ibuy/campaign.asp?cid=3963>

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 09:31:44 -0600
From: William R Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [151119] Re: Screwdriver Antenna
Message-ID: <20030522.094026.-336075.0.w5xe@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Henry, go to: <http://www.qsl.net/w5es/>
which is the club selling the "Electra-slide"
a modified version of the W6AAQ screwdriver
antenna. Click on the Electraslide heading

in the sidebar, then once that is up, there is a link to pictures, testimonials, and other comments regarding past purchases, etc.

73

Ray

"Texas can make it without the United States,
but the United States can't make it without Texas."

Sam Houston, Governor

Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC#3618, SOWP#1064M

ARCI-5784 NCT2R El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 12:47:42 -0400
From: "Glen Leinweber" <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151120] Re:50-ohm coax - "plenum"
Message-ID: <002e01c32081\$dd088920\$07ea7182@mcmaster.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Seems that Ethernet installations are moving to twisted pair from coax. So this "thinnet" 50 ohm coax is likely to become available - watch out for it.

Here's some advantages:

- Smaller diameter than RG-58 with similar losses.
- Better shield structure
- Higher temperature rating (for plenum varieties)

Jim Duffey suggests it'll withstand sunlight UV outside.

The only disadvantage I can see is that its small diameter won't seal properly with weather-resistant connectors like BNC.

For the thinnet Belden 9907 cable (10 base 2),
here's the attenuation in dB per 100 ft....

1 MHz.	.43 dB
10MHz.	1.3 dB
50MHz.	2.9 dB
100MHz.	4.2 dB
200Mhz.	6.1 dB
400MHz.	8.9 dB
700MHz.	12.1 dB

900MHz. 13.9 dB
1000MHz. 14.8 dB

25.4 pf / ft. Jacket dia. 0.16" - 0.185"
Electrically very similar to RG-58 varieties. Whereas
RG-58 velocity of propagation varies between
66% - 75%, this has 80%.

Some other identifiers you might see printed on
the jacket:

"10 BASE 2"
"IEEE 802.3"

If you come across the thicker stuff (10 base 5)
about 0.4" dia., it is similar to RG-8 electrically.
-Glen VE3DNL

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 10:29:35 -0700
From: Randy Foltz <rfoltz@turbonet.com>
To: qrp1_post <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151121] Hoot Owl Sprint
Message-ID: <3ECD08FF.EDC60AA3@turbonet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here is just what you've been waiting for. Yet another
contest this weekend. To accompany the WPX and the MI QRP
Memorial Day CW Sprint is the QRP ARCI Hoot Owl Sprint.

Contest: QRP ARCI Hoot Owl Sprint.

Date: May 25 from 8 pm local time to midnight local time.
Local time means whatever time zone you are in, that is your
local time.

How to participate: Get on any of the HF bands near the QRP
frequencies except the WARC bands. Listen for stations
sending CQ QRP or CQ TST. Or send either of those
yourself. Work as many stations as you can on as many bands
as possible.

What to say: Give a signal report, your state (if in USA) or
your province (if in Canada) or your country (if anywhere
else), and finally your ARCI member number or your power if

you are not a member.

Best reason to participate: So that you can stay up until midnight and watch propagation change while working your QRP buddies.

Relative challenge: A bit more of a challenge than other QRP ARCI sprints because of the staggered start times, but still a laid back operating event.

Web Link: <http://personal.palouse.net/rfoltz/arci/hoot.htm>

+++++

That was the quick summary. Here are the further details.

QSO Points: Each member is worth 5 points, each non-member on same continent is worth 2 points, and each nonmember on a different continent is worth 4 points.

Multipliers: Total of states, provinces, and countries for ALL bands.

Power Multiplier:

< 250 mW = x 15

250 mW to < 1 W = x 10

1 W to 5 W = x 7

greater than 5 W = x 1

Final Score:

QSO points x Multipliers (for all bands) X Power Multiplier

Use the High Claimed Score Form at <http://personal.palouse.net/rfoltz/arci/form.htm> to send me your summary, then send me a copy of your log to rfoltz@turbonet.com. Check the High Claimed Scores page at <http://personal.palouse.net/rfoltz/arci/highclm.htm> each night after 9 PM PDT to see how others have done.

You can also send your results and logs via regular mail to

Randy Foltz
809 Leith St.
Moscow, ID 83843

I'll be on. Will you?

--
73,
Randy, K7TQ
Moscow, ID
QRP ARCI Contest Chairman

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 11:51:32 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: QRP-Canada <qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>,
Low Power Group <qrp-l@LeHigh.EDU>
Subject: [151122] Fox - Summer Fox Hunt -
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0305221149100.23036-100000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

So far, no Teams have come forward for the Summer Fox Hunt...I know the
"Raiders of the Lost RF" have decided to take the summer off and come back
for the Winter hunt...

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272
A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - QRP Borg#1 - Whiner#10 -
- VE5QRP SOC#11 - VE5RC SOC#12 - oo#148 - K2#2032 - COG#15 -
"QRP! How sweet it is!" "I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 10:53:16 -0700
From: Eric Swartz WA6HHQ - Elecraft <eric@elecraft.com>
To: Elecraft List <elecraft@mailman.qth.net>
Cc: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, GQRP <gqrp@groups1.vip.scd.yahoo.com>
Subject: [151123] New .wav files of KDSP2 noise reduction on SSB and CW
Message-ID: <3ECD0E8C.8030404@elecraft.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As requested, we have added demo files of the KDSP2 in action using noise
reduction for CW and SSB signals to our KDSP2 web page. The links are near the
bottom of the page.

See: <http://www.elecraft.com/KDSP2/kdsp2.htm>

These recordings were made with the DSP set for a fairly aggressive noise
reduction. The KDSP2 can also be adjusted from the K2's front panel for more

or less noise reduction as you like. it can also be set to run with the auto notch and narrow bandwidth filter settings at the same time as noise reduction.

73, Eric WA6HHQ
<http://www.elecrafter.com>

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 13:10:56 -0500
From: "Mark Andrews" <KE4IOF@KE4IOF.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151124] Re:50-ohm coax - "plenum"
Message-ID: <01bb01c3208d\$7e5b5c20\$146f640a@MarkAndrews>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Actually, Thinnet has been pass for many years now. I can't think of any thinnet installations I've worked for/at in the last 10 years. So if you find some that is being pulled and replaced by Cat 5 (or better), ask how long it has been in the walls/ceilings, etc. Most of it won't have been subjected to a tremendous amount of stress since it was used in interior spaces. However occasionally it will have been run through attics or basements where conditions could have caused it to deteriorate significantly.

As for BNC connectors, since that is how thinnet connected at its terminating points, finding the right size BNC shouldn't be a problem. I think this cable is referred to as RG-59, so get connectors that will fit RG-59 and all will be well. I still have a heavy duty Paladin ratcheting crimping tool just for these connectors; it doesn't get much use anymore.

Mark A. Andrews, KE4MA

"You can't reason a person out of a position that the person wasn't reasoned into in the first place"

----- Original Message -----
From: "Glen Leinweber" <leinwebe@mcmaster.ca>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2003 11:47 AM
Subject: Re:50-ohm coax - "plenum"

> Seems that Ethernet installations are moving to twisted pair
> from coax. So this "thinnet" 50 ohm coax is likely to

> become available - watch out for it.
>

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 11:16:34 -0700
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
To: "EPA-QRP" <EPA-QRP@yahooogroups.com>,
 "NoVAQRP" <NoVaQRP@topica.com>, "NJQRP" <njqrp@njqrp.org>,
Subject: [151125] Digital QRP Homebrewing pages updated
Message-ID: <002101c3208e\$97ef8ed0\$22116a0a@GHLTP4>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

With QRP Quarterly now in subscribers' hands, I've updated the website version of my regular "Digital QRP Homebrewing" column (<http://www.njqrp.org/digitalhomebrewing/index.html>). Some great updates are described, and some even neater follow-on projects are introduced ... the following introductory blurb on the home page says it all. Enjoy!

73, George N2APB
n2apb@amsat.org

=====

Now that homebrewers have their HC908 Daughtercards in hand, the topic for this installment deals with creating special, custom programs with the easy-to-use Template program supplied with the project. We'll show how one can easily create a 'Hello DDS' program to meet specific signal source needs on the bench.

Speaking of the HC908 Daughtercard, we have a tremendously useful Resource Page (www.njqrp.org/hc908/resource.html) set up for users of the daughtercard containing online documentation, application notes, special guidance and instruction, tools and lots of software. Some HC908 Daughtercard owners are going gangbusters in creating applications with this project and they are sharing back with us all. Further, we've highlighted a Motorola Application note that describes how to make a very low-cost programmer for the 68HC908AB32 microcontroller ... so if you want to go one step beyond the built-in capabilities of loading custom software, you now have the super inexpensive way to even modify the HCmon debug monitor to your liking! (Thanks to Tom W8K0X and Nancy NJ8B Feeny for pushing this envelope.)

The second theme of this website concerns the fourth installment of the PIC

WX project - the PIC-based APRS Weather Station. Designer NK0E adds a wind speed indicator to his growing project using some clever techniques and a homebrew anemometer. Dave is getting lots closer to completing this project and we'll soon see how he couples the hardware/software end of the weather station into the radio portion of the APRS system.

We're now working on a real interesting add-on project to the Digital Breadboard ... the DSP Daughtercard! As planned all along, this daughtercard will allow the Digital Breadboard to perform as a Portable PSK unit by providing PSK31 digital modem capabilities. The cool part about this is that is that we've begun collaboration with Lyle Johnson, KK7P to use his DSPx module in the Digibal Breadboard project. You can see details concerning the KK7P DSPx module at <http://www.fidalgo.net/~wa7gxd/dsp.html>. By working with KK7P and his already-available module, we'll be able to bring the "Portable PSK" Digital Breadboard to kit availability lots sooner than originally forecasted! You can even order your DSPx module right now from KK7P, or you can wait for the introduction of the Digital Breadboard later this summer. The Digital Breadboard Kit will include an option to purchase the KK7P DSPx module at a significant discount.

Yet another of the fascinating "digital" topics that we're working on for our column and website concerns Software Defined Radios. Some of you may have been following the article series in QEX magazine, authored by Gerald Youngblood, AC50G, wherein he developed a pc board set that functions as a high-performance, multiband QRP transceiver controlled by a standard PC. The radio relies on the DSP processing provided in the PC's sound card and the computer displays a dazzling operating console to the monitor allowing the user to see and control every aspect of the radio's operation. (See www.flex-radio.com for further details right now.) I've been experimenting with this SDR-1000 transceiver and will bring my initial findings and overview to this Digital QRP Homebrewing venue next time.

Indeed there is lots happening! Please have fun with all this material and be sure to feedback how your HC908 Daughtercard application is coming along. Also, Dave Ek NK0E (ekdave@earthlink.net) would be real interested in hearing of your progress with his PIC-WX Weather Station project..

73, George N2APB n2apb@amsat.org

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 14:24:46 -0400
From: "Dean-NR2V/4" <nr2v@northnet.org>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151126] For sale; Argo 509
Message-ID: <003801c3208f\$6c858e10\$03fea8c0@deanlaptop>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In decent shape-Couple dings but PT0 seems fine.
need to sell to buy Kdsp2
\$190 shipped CONUS.

If you have a kdsp2/ we can talk...
;-)

72 Dean

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 14:47:37 -0400
From: "R. Coakley" <rcoakley@maine.rr.com>
To: <alihernlem@hotmail.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151127] Re: MC1590G was Re: MC1349 AMP
Message-ID: <002201c32092\$9d65bbb0\$6400a8c0@downstairs>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I believe the '1590 is discussed to some extent in the old Solid State
Design book by Hayward and DeMaw.

Bob KX1E>

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 11:58:04 -0700
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
To: Elecraft List <elecraft@mailman.qth.net>, QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151128] Re: [Elecraft] New .wav files of KDSP2 noise reduction on SSB
and CW
Message-ID: <20030522185804.GB14761@n7xy.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

On Thu, May 22, 2003 at 10:53:16AM -0700, Eric Swartz WA6HHQ - Elecraft wrote:
> As requested, we have added demo files of the KDSP2 in action using noise

> reduction for CW and SSB signals to our KDSP2 web page. The links are near
> the bottom of the page.
> See: <http://www.elecrafter.com/KDSP2/kdsp2.htm>
>
> These recordings were made with the DSP set for a fairly aggressive noise
> reduction. The KDSP2 can also be adjusted from the K2's front panel for
> more or less noise reduction as you like. it can also be set to run with
> the auto notch and narrow bandwidth filter settings at the same time as
> noise reduction.
>
> 73, Eric WA6HHQ
> <http://www.elecrafter.com>
>
Eric,

Those are very good examples and reflect my experience with the KDSP2
as well, although I haven't had much opportunity yet to use it on SSB
(I just finished the KSB2 yesterday).

There is practically an infinite combination of available settings for
the various features of the KDSP2, unlike much of the competition which
gives you perhaps a few pre-set values. Although the default settings
are not bad, I suspect that most people will want to experiment a bit.
The manual lists all the default values so it is fairly easy to return
to the starting point, if desired. I have been keeping noise reduction
on in CW mode (it's easy to mistake the noise reduction for a dead
band!), but only use it for SSB when conditions dictate.

Do you recall what settings were used in capturing the demo audio?

73,
Bob, N7XY

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 13:19:19 -0500
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <cw@mailman.qth.net>, "David J. Ring Jr - N1EA" <n1ea@arrl.net>
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <grp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [151129] Re: [CW] Etiquette question...(now longer)
Message-ID: <00ec01c32097\$38eca810\$0401a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

David, one last note from me on this topic and then no more . . .

You still are promoting the viewpoint that anyone who runs "QRP" is somehow lacking in mentality, equipment, money, judgment or whatever.

That is not only incorrect, it is demeaning and insulting to the majority of QRP operators.

David, you are just off base on this one, condemning an entire facet of amateur radio because they annoy you in your quest for signals worthy of "passing traffic" when you have no more traffic to pass.

Most of us are rather well educated; many of us have graduate degrees in EE, physics, and the like; many of us either worked or still do as professional communications engineers; we are, for the most part, able to afford to run a big amp if we choose; many of us *do* use a 100-watt transceiver cranked down to 5 watts for our QRP activities; and on and on. And we are not reluctant to crank up the power when it is required.

You have a very simple solution to your problem of weak signals: don't have anything to do with them. Amateur radio for 99.999% of the time is not concerned with passing traffic, but I sense that your acceptable performance level is instinctively still based upon that standard from your professional days.

I, too, once held the mindset that you have re QRP operation. I never ran less than 100 watts and for the past 13 years have been in a location where an amp was not a good idea. But years ago, I ran SB-220 amps at full bore and wished for more, as well as a taller tower.

But, the more I heard and read of this QRP business, starting a few years ago, the less I believed what I was being told. So, I starting listening around the "watering holes" at 7040 and 14060. Sure enough, there were a few signals "down there" in the noise but for the most part, I could not tell much difference from the sound of the band elsewhere. I cranked the big rig down to 5 watts and sure enough, I could work people and still get 579 reports!

As time went on, I learned more about QRP operations and mainly about the mindset and the people involved. In nearly 58 years of ham radio, the last 4 have been my best due to my association with QRP people and participation in QRP events.

Limiting one's self to 5 watts is a great leveler in that the most \$\$ does not always do the best job or win the prize. I have no doubt you have the skill and experience required to dig those weak ones out of the noise, but my point is that very few of the QRP signals I have encountered over the years are anywhere near the noise!

QRP does not equate to signals in the noise.

If weak signals are abhorrent to you, just ignore them. But, don't be surprised if a lot of those S7 and above signals are running 5 watts. And I won't go into the dB comparisons beyond reminding you that if you believe in the "6 dB per S-unit" myth, then 5 watts is only 13 dB or a little over two S-units below 100 watts.

So, if 100 watts produces an S9 signal, you can expect to get an S7 signal from a five-watter with a comparable antenna. Not too shabby. My typical QRP CW contact is with a station who is registering from S5 to S9 on my PR02 S-meter and who frequently is comfortable copy on a speaker.

If you have in mind that the typical QRP'er runs 200 mW from a little homemade transmitter in an Altoids tin, you have correctly identified a small but enthusiastic segment of the QRP group. There are entire single-band superhet transceivers capable of a watt or two output in similar containers. But that is just a part of the QRP movement.

QRP is one thing and one thing only: operation with a maximum output of 5 watts from the transmitter - any transmitter, any antenna. I personally use the best equipment I can afford (IC-765, IC-756PRO, IC-756PRO2, and Elecraft K2) for QRP work. I am limited to wire antennas and verticals.

Others prefer the smaller homebrew and kit-built affairs. But we all have to do the best we can with 5 watts, and there is where the operator skill and experience comes into the act in spades.

We hold contests weekly during parts of the year called Fox Hunts in which stations all over the country attempt to work a pair of stations (the "Foxii") with everyone running a maximum of 5 watts. I have heard 500 mW stations that cause my S-meter to hit S7-9 with perfect copy despite the noise and much QRM.

The old commercial line was "Try it - you'll like it!" Spend an hour or two around 14060 starting at 2230Z on June 1 (Sunday afternoon/evening) and listen to the first 20-meter Summer Fox Hunt for 2003. You will hear from 100 to 300 stations trying to work two Fox stations.

One Fox will be in the 60-65 range while the other will be somewhere in the 55-60 range. Notice the signal strengths you hear - copy the exchanges and you will learn the power being run by each station. Compare the scene with any major DX pileup you ever heard.

Better yet, crank back the power knob to 5 watts and jump in and see if you can work the Foxii! There is far more here than meets the eye (ear?), believe me!

Hopefully, you will hear the old Yellow Rose in there with the mob getting a

couple of Fox pelts. Last year, 5 watts resulted in working 39 of the 40
Foxii, and our Fox Hunting team won nationally with 191 out of 200 possible
contacts. All on 5 watts . . .

Enough from me, David, but you are by implication putting down a group of
wonderful hams and people and failing to experience what could be a new
facet of amateur radio that could change your own outlook - I know that it
did mine when ham radio was becoming a real drag after over 50 years of the
same old stuff.

<steps down from the pulpit, holding sore thumb in other hand . . .>

73/72, George

Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
"In the 57th year and it just keeps getting better!"
<mailto:w5yr@att.net>

----- Original Message -----

From: "David J. Ring Jr - N1EA" <n1ea@arrl.net>
To: "W2AGN" <w2agn@w2agn.net>; <cw@mailman.qth.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2003 11:06 AM
Subject: Re: [CW] Etiquette question...

> If you're working these guys through any type of competition like a pile
> up,
> your not talking about the same weak signals that I am.
>
> Brute force sometimes works, but just plain brute force doesn't work well
> without some brains.

<snip>

> As is not running power when you need it.
>
> 73
>
> David Ring
> N1EA

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 13:46:18 -0700
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: <wa6ger@juno.com>

Subject: [151130] NorCal 10th Anniversary Party
Message-ID: <015c01c320a3\$32538bc0\$4a0b0d0a@dph.dpol.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Guys, Sunday, June 1st, will be the 10th anniversary of the forming of NorCal. Yes the club that brought you the NorCal 40, Sierra, Cascade, St. Louis Tuner, Curtis 8044 Keyer kit, SD20 Pole (for the St. Louis Vertical), NorCal Paddles, Epiphyte 1, 2 & 3, Epiphyte Amp, 38 Special, 49er, Miniboats Amp kit, Nor'Easter SWL Receiver, Tuna Tin 2, Herring Aid 5, Codzilla VFO, NorCal Cap, Resistor & Toroid Kits, NorCal 20, SMK-1, NorCal BLT, and the NorCal Doublet, plus a couple more that I have forgotten I am sure, is now 10 years old.

NorCal also had a hand in several products later becoming commercial products. The SST, NorCal 40A, Sierra, NorCal Paddles, Tick Keyers, Elecraft Products, American Morse Products, Blue Sky Engineering Counter, San Luis Machine, Small Wonder Labs kits all have a connection to NorCal.

We have had some wonderful designers: Wayne Burdick, Dave Fifield, Dan Tayloe, Dave Benson, Dave Meacham, Ori Mizrahi-Shalom, John Liebenrood, Derry Spittle, Dave Gauding, Andy Becker, Jim Duffey, Charlie Lofgren, Wayne Smith, Doug Hauff, Gary Diana, Brad Mitchell, Steve Bornstein, Tony Fishpool, Graham Firth, Mike Fitzgibbon, Jim Kortge, Carel Mulder, Paul Harden, George Heron, Joe Everhart and many others have worked with us on projects throughout our history.

We started Pacificon with 2 speakers many years ago, and since that time we have encouraged and supported the starting of other QRP Forums around the country, including Ft. Tuthill, Arkiecon, Iowa QRP, 4SQRP Group, Atlanticon and Lobstercon. We have taken great pleasure in watching these groups get started, many using the NorCal model, and all have become annual events and all are very successful. Our goal in NorCal has always been to support QRP and encourage its spread. We think we have done that.

QRPP has had a run of 10 years, and thousands of pages of qrp articles have been written by almost every famous and unfamous author in QRP.

We are going to celebrate our rich history by going back to our roots. We started NorCal with a table at Livermore. We will do that again on Sunday. Please stop by and say hello. We'll try to have a bunch of our NorCal kits there (for show and tell, not for sale), but mainly, we want to see you and say thanks for the support for all of these years. After the swap, we will meet at the California Burger for birthday cake. Stop by and say hello.

72, Jim Cates, WA6GER and Doug Hendricks, KI6DS

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 13:47:30 -0700
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@dph.dpol.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [151131] Miniboats Arrival??
Message-ID: <016401c320a3\$5c9f2ec0\$4a0b0d0a@dph.dpol.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Has anyone gotten their Miniboats kit yet? Who will be the first to get one
on the air??? 72, Doug

End of QRP-L Digest 2928

